25X1X Italy/Austria DATE: COUNTRY INFO. SUBJECT The South Tirol Volkspartei and the Trentiners DIST. 25X1A **PAGES** LIBHARY COPY SUPPLEMENT **ORIGIN** SOURCE 1. In reply to the original SVP proposals (made in the latter part of October) for collaboration between the two autonomous provinces of Bolsano and Trentino, the ASAR (the autonomist movement in the Trentino) suggested a joint autonomy of the two provinces with the condition that laws of the Diet should require a 5/7 majority. The SVP is reported to have rejected the suggestion categorically. 2. Conversations were then initiated between the SVP and the Italian Christian Democratic Party of the Trentino and the latter finally agreed to the original SVP proposals if a clause were included providing for a joint sitting of the two Diets when matters of common interest are under discussion. These matters are to be strictly limited and to be specified in the autonomy sta-(Comment: Under the original SVP proposals it was suggested that the two Diets might sit together as a single Diet when matters of common interest are under discussion, but only if both agree to the joint session.) 3. On 7 February the Christian Democrats of the Trentino went to Bolsano again to discuss the matter further. In the meantime they had been to Rome where they had talked with Dr. Innocenti. As a result of these Rome talks the Trentiners stated that, for internal political reasons, they could not nego-띪 tiate with the SVP on the agreed lines as their political opponents would accuse them of having betrayed the idea of a joint autonomy. They, therefore, IRNING NOTICE: THIS DISTINBUTION LISTING MUST urged the SVP to take the initiative and to inform the Italian Authorities DOCUMENT in Rome of the lengths it was prepared to go in the question of provincial versus regional autonomy, thus forcing the SVP to take the responsibility for the compromise solution. The new Directorate of the SVP will reportedly meet in the near future to discuss this proposal and it is believed that they will inform Rome that they have broken off negotiations with the Trentiners and have themselves worked ö out the final terms for cooperation between the two autonomous provinces. It is believed that the final terms will be substantially the same as the original RELEASE STP proposals, subject to the one change concerning the joint Diet mentioned (Comment: Matters of common interest falling within the commeter of the joint Diet are likely to be confined to public water power, rights of native or naturalized persons, the tax system and the police.) CLASSIFICATION This document is hereby regaded to complete the control of the con ONFIDENTIAL Document No. letter of 16 October 1973 from the Director of Central Intelligence to the Diffictor of Central Internations Class. CHAI
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